Docket No.: 0142-0362P (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

GARDEREN VAN, F. et al.

Application No.: 09/974,911 Confirmation No.: 8931

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action dated September 30, 2005, the period for response having been extended one (1) month to January 30, 2006, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes:

Amended Claim Set; and

Remarks.